HEBER GILES AND MATILDA NICOL CROOK



Heber Giles Crook was born Sept. 18, 1861 at Heber, a son of John and Mary Giles Crook. He married Matilda Nicol, daughter of Thomas Nicol IV and Joanna Christina Handberg on Dec. 14, 1887. Matilda was born April 18, 1868 in Heber. Their children included LeOra and Edna who died in

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infancy; Hannah Cecelia (Mrs. Warr Jones); John Thomas, married Annie Harve Mary (Mrs. Louris Mahoney); Chase Nic married Lila Allison; Jennie (Mrs. Walla Nelson); Dora (Mrs. Walter Fisher) Re Giles and Blanch. Heber died April 23, 19 and Matilda died Feb. 12, 1956.

Heber or "Hebe" as he was known, gre up in the West Ward of Heber, learning a small boy to herd cattle and take care crops. He also worked as a boy in the Lak Creek sandstone quarry. He helped his pa ents clear the land of sagebrush and turn into serviceable farm acreage.

The first year after his marriage, Heb worked at Park City in James Rasband butcher shop. He decided he did not ca for this work and would rather farm, so h traded his home in Heber and $5,000 fo William Murdock's 160 acre farm in Lak Creek, where he moved with his family.

He came to be known as one of th pioneers in agriculture in Wasatch County He had grown up with the earth and love it. He had one of the best kept farms in th valley, and raised fruits and berries of al varieties, and was one of the first men t operate a big orchard. He became very proficient in grafting buds of improved specie and varieties of trees into the old trees tha had become acclimated to the valley. H also raised grains, hay and many other crops in addition to his cattle interests. He wa also in the sheep business with J. W. Giles.

A very close friendship developed betwee Heber Crook and Elisha Duke that laste more than 65 years. The two families an others would go camping in the mountain for two weeks every year, an event which their youngsters keenly looked forward to.

A humanitarian, Heber Crook was always willing to help less fortunate persons, and even in the dead of winter would travel long distances to help those who might be stranded, ill or otherwise needed assistance.

He served in many civic capacities, including a school trustee and director of a water company. He was a member of livestock organizations and served for many years as a volunteer weather observer. He took part in activities of the Center Ward where he was Sunday School superintendent.

He turned his farm over to his boys in 1915 and moved to the Heber First Ward with his wife. Together they spent many hours in temple work, Church activities, and yard and gardening work. They later moved

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infancy; Hannah Cecelia (Mrs. Warren Jones); John Thomas, married Annie Harvey; Mary (Mrs. Louris Mahoney); Chase Nicol, married Lila Allison; Jennie (Mrs. Wallace Nelson); Dora (Mrs. Walter Fisher) Reed Giles and Blanch. Heber died April 23, 1941 and Matilda died Feb. 12, 1956.

Heber or "Hebe" as he was known, grew up in the West Ward of Heber, learning as a small boy to herd cattle and take care of crops. He also worked as a boy in the Lake Creek sandstone quarry. He helped his parents clear the land of sagebrush and turn it into serviceable farm acreage.

The first year after his marriage, Hebe worked at Park City in James Rasband's butcher shop. He decided he did not care for this work and would rather farm, so he traded his home in Heber and $5,000 for William Murdock's 160 acre farm in Lake Creek, where he moved with his family.

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into the Matt Clements home in the Second Ward, where they planted trees, flowers, a vegetable garden and had plenty of room for their grandchildren to play.

Matilda, "Tillie," or "Aunt Til" as she was called, learned responsibility early in her life. At the age of nine she would stay with her sister Josephine, whose husband Alva Murdock, worked away from home. One night as she was returning home from her sister's place, she bumped into an old hay rack, bruising her leg badly below the knee. This accident caused her much pain and suffering, and in her later life she had to undergo a series of operations. But through her faith and the power of the priesthood, she was able to retain the use of her leg throughout her life.

As a girl Tillie learned to work around the house. Her mother was a practical nurse and was away from home a lot, so Tillie did much of the work. In the year 1886 she went to White Rocks to live with her sister Josephine, while her brother-in-law managed the Indian Reservation. She returned home in the spring of 1887 to prepare for marriage to Heber, and they were married in the Logan Temple.

After moving to Lake Creek, Matilda took an active part in Church work, teaching classes and conducting the singing. She was a very graceful dancer and taught many young people the various steps. She was also active in Relief Society and the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers.

After her husband's death in 1942 she continued to maintain her home in Heber, though she traveled occasionally to visit her family before her death in 1956.